

Town of Plymouth
80 Main Street
Terryville, Connecticut 06786

Plymouth Town Council
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Minutes

September 5, 2017

Call to Order: Mayor David V. Merchant called the scheduled September 5, 2017, Plymouth Town Council Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 pm, in the Community Room, Plymouth Town Hall.

Roll call: Present were: Town Councilman Daniel Gentile, Town Councilwoman Ana LeGasse, Mayor David V. Merchant, Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski and Town Councilman Tom Zagurski. Also in attendance were: Town Attorney William Hamzy and Ann Marie Rheault, Director of Finance.

Excused Absence: Councilman John Pajeski

Adoption of the Agenda

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski to add the words "*on agenda items*" after "*Public Comment*" to Agenda Item #8. This motion was approved unanimously.

Fire Exit Notification

Mayor Merchant noted the Fire Exits for the record.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Merchant led the Plymouth Town Council and the Public Audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation

Mayor Merchant stated, "May God Bless the U.S.A. and the Town of Plymouth and all of our troops serving around the world and protecting our freedom" for the record.

Acceptance of Minutes: Plymouth Town Council August 1, 2017 Regular meeting minutes, Town of Plymouth Public Hearing August 10, 2017, Plymouth Town Council August 10, 2017 Special meeting minutes

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Ana LeGasse, to accept the Plymouth Town Council August 1, 2017 Regular meeting minutes as

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presented. This motion was approved unanimously with one (1) abstention by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to accept the Town of Plymouth Public Hearing August 10, 2017 as presented. This motion was approved unanimously with one (1) abstention by Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile, to accept the Plymouth Town Council August 10, 2017 Special meeting minutes as presented. This motion was approved unanimously with one (1) abstention by Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey.

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Melanie Church, 328 Street, Terryville, briefly discussed transfers into the Comptroller's office.

Public Comment

Melanie Church – 328 Main Street, Terryville, briefly discussed the Assessor's position, non-agenda items, noting she was in favor of a Town Manager.

John Murphy – 385 Greystone Road, Terryville, stated item #16 would be a good thing to look at for the business of the mayor.

Awards Presentation

The Mayor gave an award to the following in recognition of having saved a life from a structure fire in June: Deputy Chief Greg Cody, Captain Scott Milliken, Firefighter John Hawes, Firefighter Frank Wollman and Firefighter Alan Dominy.

Mayor's Report

Mayor David V. Merchant reported and provided updates on the following: Eli Terry rear access is working smoothly. Todd Hollow is almost complete. He is working on blight. Thanked the Lions Club for a great job at the fair. Will be announcing a large company coming to Terryville in 2 – 3 weeks. No word on the State budget.

Finance Director's Report

Ann Marie Rheault distributed to the General Fund Revenue/Expenditures Summary for July 2017.

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Discuss and take action, as may be necessary, to refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Jessie Jablon \$13.31; Robert Odonnel \$694.40; Edmond Borkoski \$251.90; James Stephens \$6.56; Frederick or Exelda Messenger \$11.49; William or Robyn Hawley \$56.22; USB Leasing LT \$464.80; Sarah or Marcel Trudeau \$14.24; Sharon or Blain Soucy \$27.26; Financial Freedom \$1,119.19; Deborah Notchick \$4.00; Paula Whitford \$34.34

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to approve and refund overpayment of Property Taxes to the following: Jessie Jablon \$13.31; Robert Odonnel \$694.40; Edmond Borkoski \$251.90; James Stephens \$6.56; Frederick or Exelda Messenger \$11.49; William or Robyn Hawley \$56.22; USB Leasing LT \$464.80; Sarah or Marcel Trudeau \$14.24; Sharon or Blain Soucy \$27.26; Financial Freedom \$1,119.19; Deborah Notchick \$4.00; Paula Whitford \$34.34. This motion was approved unanimously.

Memorial Day Parade Committee Report (Marty Sandshaw)

Marty Sandshaw, 7 Richmond Drive, Terryville, Chairman of the Plymouth and Memorial Day Committee. The Ad hoc committee (Dick Foote, John Wunsch, Matt Malley, Larry Minor, Trish Hale, George Castle, Sarah Sandshaw, Time Keane, Chris Perkins and Marty Sandshaw) decided there will be one (1) Memorial Day Committee. The Memorial Day Service for the Town of Plymouth will be held at Veteran's Memorial on Baldwin Park with a parade to the service starting from the Terryville Fire House. There will be an ecumenical service on the Plymouth Green sponsored by the Plymouth Congregational Church on the Sunday before Memorial Day. There will be one (1) checking account with startup funds of \$700.00.

Housing Authority of the Town of Plymouth Financial Audit Report

Vinnie Klimas, Chairman of the Housing Authority went over his financial report.

Discuss and take action on the Charter Revision questions for placement on the November 7, 2017 ballot

Attorney Bill Hamzy reduced the four (4) recommendations to three (3) questions.

Question #1 Shall the appointment of an Assessor and the requirement for the Council to maintain a journal be changed in accordance with Items 1 and 2 of the Final Report of the Charter Revision Commission and as approved by the Town Council?

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated that everything goes into the town clerk office. A brief discussion took place about the journal and what gets attached to the minutes.

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Question #2 Shall changes be made to the budget approval process so that the Council can approve a proposed budget with changes of not more than 3% in accordance with Item 3 of the Final Report of the Charter Revision Commission and as approved by the Town Council?

The Town Council agreed with this question.

Question #3 Shall all boards and commissions be required to include “Public Comment” on their agendas, shall the Town Council be required to have “Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items” on all of its agendas and shall all boards or commissions be required to allow people to speak at meetings in accordance with Item 4 of the Final Report of the Charter Revision Commission and as approved by the Town Council?

Town Councilman Dan Gentile stated it should say “public comment on agenda items”.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey to amend Question #3 to say “public comment on agenda items”. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile to approve the three (3) questions as presented with the change on Questions #3 to include “public comment on agenda items”. This motion was approved unanimously.

Discuss and take action to put an advisory question for a Town Manager form of government on the November 7, 2017 ballot

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski stated he is highly in favor of putting this question on the ballot.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski that the question on the ballot be: Shall a charter revision commission be established to consider a town manager form of government? This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Council Liaison Reports

Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey stated that the Economic Development Commission and WPCA canceled their meetings. She missed the Public Works meeting. PVAC received \$1000 donation from ESPN and that they are planning a big anniversary party for next year.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski stated the Small Wonders program helped eighty (80) students. A special thanks to Eric McCoy and Sergeant Cesar Berrios for organized drives at Target and Walmart. Nothing to report on police commission.

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Mayor David V. Merchant reported that the Plymouth Fire House construction has started.

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski reported that his Commissions were off for the month of August.

Town Councilman Dan Gentile reported that the Code Enforcement Committee is cleaning up the town. Parks and Recreation summer camp ended.

Town Council Comments

Town Councilman Dan Gentile thanked the Fire Department and sends prayers to the people in Texas.

Town Councilman Tom Zagurski – no comments

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski – no comments

Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey thanked the volunteers and the Fire Department.

Executive Session to discuss Real Estate Negotiations; Contract Negotiations

Town Councilwoman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski to go into Executive Session to discuss Real Estate Negotiations and Contract Negotiations. Ann Marie Rheault and Attorney Bill Hamzy were invited to attend. The time was 8:05 p.m.

Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Dan Gentile to come out of Executive Session. The time was 8:54 p.m.

Action, as may be necessary, from Executive Session

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to approve an economic development grant from the Town of Plymouth to The Ultimate Companies, Inc. in the amount of \$68,000 toward the purchase of lots 2, 3 and 5 on Swicklas Court. This motion was approved unanimously.

Town Councilwoman Sue Murawski made a motion, seconded by Town Councilwoman Ana LeGassey, to approve the tax abatement schedule for The Ultimate Companies, Inc. as approved by the Tax Incentive Committee. This motion was approved unanimously.

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Adjournment

There being no further business of the Plymouth Town Council. Town Councilman Dan Gentile made a motion, seconded by Town Councilman Tom Zagurski, to adjourn at 8:59 p.m. This motion was approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Schnaars
Acting Recording Secretary